

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 A method comprising acts of:
providing a scheduler including a plurality of calendars used to determine
when a frame is to be moved from a flow queue;
providing at least one search engine to search the calendars;
defining a tic period within which searching is to be completed;
searching with the search engine the calendars so determined;
postponing search of any calendars so determined if postponed calendars
could not be searched within the tic period;
wherein the act of determining calendars to be searched further includes the acts of:
providing a first register for storing bits indicating calendars whose current time (Ct) has changed during a ~~tic~~ tic cycle;
providing at least one counter with sufficient bits to count to 2^{m-1} , where m =number of bits required to represent number of location in calendar;
providing at least one counter with sufficient location to count to $\log 2m$, wherein $\log 2m = 2^m$ = max number of locations in a calendar;
stepping the counter in accordance with a predefined pattern; and
adjusting contents of the first register based upon contents of the counter.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 6~~ A method comprising acts of:
providing a scheduler including a plurality of calendars used to determine
when a frame is to be moved from a flow queue;
providing at least one search engine to search the calendars;
defining a tic period within which searching is to be completed;
searching with the search engine the calendars so determined;
postponing search of any calendars so determined if postponed calendars
could not be searched within the tic period;
tagging calendars whose search was postponed,
wherein tagging further includes the acts of providing a register with
positions corresponding to the plurality of calendars; and
setting a bit in position corresponding to calendars whose search has
been postponed in a particular tic cycle.

8-18. (Cancelled)